

SENATE, No. 56

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator ROBERT W. SINGER

District 30 (Monmouth and Ocean)

Senator THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

District 21 (Morris, Somerset and Union)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senators O'Scanlon and Gopal

SYNOPSIS

Requires declaration of Code Blue alert when National Weather Service predicts temperatures of 32 degrees Fahrenheit or lower.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 AN ACT concerning Code Blue alert declarations and amending
2 P.L.2017, c.68.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. Section 3 of P.L.2017, c.68 (C.App.A:9-43.20) is amended
8 to read as follows:

9 **【App.A:9-43.20 Declaration of Code Blue alert.】**

10 3. A coordinator shall declare a Code Blue alert after
11 evaluating weather forecasts and advisories produced by the
12 National Weather Service that predict the following weather
13 conditions in the county within 24 to 48 hours:

14 a. temperatures will reach **【25 degrees Fahrenheit or lower**
15 **without precipitation or】** 32 degrees Fahrenheit or lower **【with**
16 **precipitation】**; or

17 b. the National Weather Service **【windchill】** wind chill
18 temperature will be zero degrees Fahrenheit or less for a period of
19 two hours or more.

20 (cf: P.L.2017, c.68, s.3)

21

22 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

23

24

25 STATEMENT

26

27 This bill requires a Code Blue alert be declared when the
28 National Weather Service predicts temperatures will reach 32
29 degrees Fahrenheit or lower.

30 Under current law, each county, through its office of emergency
31 management, is responsible for establishing a plan for issuing Code
32 Blue alerts to municipalities, social service agencies, and non-profit
33 organizations that provide services to at-risk persons located in the
34 county. The plans are to require emergency warming centers be
35 available during a Code Blue alert.

36 Currently, a Code Blue alert is to be declared when National
37 Weather Service forecasts and advisories predict within 24 to 48
38 hours that: (1) the temperature will reach 25 degrees Fahrenheit or
39 less without precipitation or 32 degrees Fahrenheit or less with
40 precipitation; or (2) the wind chill temperature will be zero degrees
41 Fahrenheit or less for a period of two hours or more.

42 This bill requires a Code Blue alert to be issued when: (1)
43 temperatures are predicted to reach 32 degrees Fahrenheit or less,
44 regardless of precipitation; or (2) the wind chill temperature will be
45 zero degrees Fahrenheit or less for a period of two hours or more.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **【thus】** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.